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The book is a valuable and scholarly one, yet it is doubtful whether it is not too difficult for even the most advanced classes in the high school. The ability to make a scholarly treatise clear to immature minds is an art in itself.

A TREATISE ON THE POWER OF TAXATION, STATE AND FEDERAL, IN THE UNITED STATES.—By Frederick N. Judson. St. Louis: The F. H. Thomas Law Book Co. 1903. pp. xxiii, 908.

The many important tax cases which have been decided by the courts, and especially by the Supreme Court of the United States, within the past few years, have rendered the standard works on the law of taxation so antiquated as to be almost useless on many questions. Mr. Judson's work was therefore needed, and, fortunately, it compares favorably with its predecessors. The limitations upon the taxing power dealt with in the text are only those of the National Constitution and those resulting from the dual form of government; but the text is supplemented by an appendix which includes a convenient compilation of the more important provisions of the State constitutions bearing upon taxation. These restrictions upon the taxing power of the State legislatures might well have been made the subject of more extended comment; but Mr. Judson has left the development of this part of the subject to other writers. It may be of some interest to note that the author of this work is also the author of an authoritative "Treatise upon the Law and Practice of Taxation in Missouri," and that he is prominent as a tax reformer, as well as in his profession, being a member of the Civic Federation Taxation Committee, of which Professor Seligman is chairman.

A TREATISE ON COMMERCIAL PAPER AND THE NEGOTIABLE INSTRUMENTS LAW.—By James W. Eaton and Frank B. Gilbert. Albany: Matthew Bender. 1903. pp. xciii, 767.

For the practising lawyer, this is the most desirable one-volume treatise on Commercial Paper, which has come under our notice. The law-student will also find it well adapted to his needs. While the text is based upon the Negotiable Instruments Statute, the doctrines, which have been modified by this legislation, are carefully stated either in the text or the notes. Undoubtedly, the book is especially suited to the requirements of the profession in the twenty and more jurisdictions where the Negotiable Instruments Law prevails, but it is a safe work in any jurisdiction.

The notes are especially valuable. They are not made up of masses of cited cases, although their array of this sort of authority is formidable. They are replete with pertinent quotations from other treatises, with the forms of equivocal or unusual instruments which have been construed by the courts, and with well-selected extracts from leading cases. They give unmistakable evidence of wide reading, of careful thinking and of sound judgment on the part of the authors.

THE HEALTH OFFICERS' MANUAL.—By L. L. Bayer. Albany: Matthew Bender. 1902. pp. xii, 289.

The Health Officers' Manual is little but a reprint of the Public Health Law of the State of New York, in some cases amended up to

date and in rarer cases accompanied by notes containing the decisions of the courts made in its interpretation. It is in no way a scientific presentation of the subject. It does not pretend to be one, but its purpose as stated in the preface "is to meet a demand, throughout this State, for a reliable guide to boards of health and health officers in their work of protecting the life and health of the people."

In addition, however, to a reprint of the Public Health Law (Chapter I) and miscellaneous statutes largely amendatory thereof, (Chapter II) the book does contain a short treatise on the powers and duties of local boards of health (Chapter III) and a draft of local sanitary ordinances proposed for adoption by such local boards (Chapter IV). In an appendix are contained forms of the various papers, reports and orders made use of by health officers.

Chapter III. on the powers and the duties of local boards is naturally the only readable portion of the book. This seems to be reasonably well done, although it cannot by any means be regarded as an exhaustive treatise. The book, while of little value to the general student, seems however to be a useful one and ought to accomplish the purpose had in mind by its author when he compiled it.

CASES ON INTERNATIONAL LAW, SELECTED FROM DECISIONS OF ENGLISH AND AMERICAN COURTS.—Edited, with syllabus and annotations, by James Brown Scott, Dean of the College of Law, University of Illinois. Boston: The Boston Book Co. 1902. pp. lxvii, 961.

It is stated by the editor that this volume was originally intended to be a revision of the late Dr. Snow's Cases and Opinions on International Law, but that, as the work progressed, the changes made were so many and so radical that it seemed advisable to the publisher to issue it as an independent work. He remarks, however, that the arrangement closely follows Dr. Snow's, and is identical with it in most respects. By the "arrangement," he means the general plan of the work, which embraces a syllabus, with topical citations of authority, and following this the cases. The citations in the syllabus, so far as they relate to treatises, generally refer to the most recent works, in place of the earlier writers mentioned by Snow. But it is in the body of the volume that the departure from the lines laid down by Snow is most noticeable. It will have been observed that Dr. Scott has dropped from his title the word "opinions;" he has likewise dropped the opinions from his collection, if we use the term to denote extracts from the works of publicists, as distinguished from what judges have said in decided cases. Snow included in his volume many extracts from the works of publicists. Dr. Scott resorts only to judicial cases, and by so doing furnishes a demonstration of the extent to which international law is recognized and enforced by the courts.

In the present volume some of Snow's notes are preserved intact, while others are amplified; and in some instances new notes are given. In some of the amplified notes, it might have been well if the editor, instead of expanding them, had re-examined the views expressed in them. Take, for example, the note on Cutting's case (Snow, 174; Scott, 300); the entire discussion is based on a misconception. The United States expressly admitted, instead of denying, that a person who circulated a libel in Mexico would be answerable for the effects

in that country, even though the libel was printed and first published in Texas. The protest of the United States was levelled against the original charge against Cutting, under article 186 of the Mexican Penal Code, which assumes to punish offences committed outside of Mexico, whether by Mexicans or by persons of other nationality, to the prejudice of Mexicans. The position of the United States, in opposing that claim, is not affected by the invocation of the "personal" theory of criminal jurisdiction, based on the allegiance of the defendant. Had Cutting been a Mexican, instead of an American, that theory would have afforded a perfect answer to the American demand; but, in that case, there would have been no demand, for the United States would not have intervened.

CASES ON CRIMINAL LAW.—By Jerome C. Knowlton and John D. Dwyer. Chicago: Callaghan & Co. 1902. pp. ix, 397.

The authors of this work have undoubtedly been guided by the maxim announced in their preface that "No iron clad method of legal education can bring any good to any body." They have certainly been untrammelled in the preparation of this collection of cases by any of the accepted rules of sound scholarship and in the selection and arrangement of cases no particular method is discernable. The collection is confessedly made up of illustrative cases or in many instances of excerpts from opinions selected and arranged without reference to the historical development of the subject. There are no English cases and seldom more than one case on any one topic. Thus there is never conflict—real or apparent—between cases and the student is spared the intellectual effort of doing any independent thinking unless perchance he should be moved to inquire why the case on jurisdiction of the United States Courts over Crime (*United States v. Hudson* 7 Cranch 32) was placed by the authors in the chapter on Definition of Crime, or why that same chapter, although it contains cases on Consent of Person Injured, "Entrapment into Crime," Repentance and Withdrawal from the Act and other related topics is silent on the subject of Justification and Self-defence (as indeed is every other chapter, treating justification as an independent topic). It may be added that the same chapter contains no cases on the subject of the criminal act, or criminal intent. What the student's definition of crime would be after reading this chapter forms an interesting subject for speculation.

The authors' subdivision of the chapter on Parties to Crime into (1) Principals, (2) Accessories, (3) Corporations is evidence of the confusion of thought which is apparent throughout the work. Numerous other examples of departure from "iron-clad methods" might be given were the result to be attained worth the effort. It is not. It is to be regretted that any book of such indifferent quality should ever come to the hands of students preparing to enter a learned profession, especially when it is remembered that there have already been published several collections of cases on this subject of a high order of merit.

THE LAW AND PRACTICE IN BANKRUPTCY.—By William M. Collier. Fourth Edition, by William H. Hotchkiss. Albany: Matthew Bender. 1903. pp. xlii, 984.